



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,207	02/11/2004	Michael J. Hubbard	OMNO-0003-1	9961
7590	05/24/2006		EXAMINER	
David G. Burleson Chief Intellectual Property Counsel OMNOVA Solutions, Inc. 175 Ghent Road Fairlawn, OH 44333			ZIRKER, DANIEL R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1771	
			DATE MAILED: 05/24/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/775,207	HUBBARD, MICHAEL J.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Daniel Zirker	1771	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 12 May 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.

6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: None.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-20.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.

12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

13. Other: _____.

Daniel Zirker
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1771

Continuation of 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): 35 USC 112, 2nd para. rejection of claim 12 set forth in Para. No.2, lines 16-17 of the Final Rejection stating that "first membrane" should be -second membrane-..

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: The Examiner believes that certain observations are necessary in light of applicant's After Final Response. As regards the contention that the Action provides "no grounds in support of" his 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph rejection it is noted that applicant appears to have essentially ignored the great majority of the lengthy analysis presented by the Examiner. It is,e.g. noted that in closely related SN 10/775,206 applicant had no problem changing "a membrane comprising a thermoplastic" to -thermoplastic membrane-, but the Examiner's same request has here been met (Response, page 6) with a blunt traversal. With respect to applicant's contention (Response, paragraph bridging pages 6-7) that the Examiner has rejected the claims "based on facts within the personal knowledge of the Examiner" and therefore he is requesting an Affidavit/Declaration under 37 CFR 104(d)(2) in support of these alleged allegations the Examiner can only note that after carefully reviewing the two earlier prior art rejection paragraphs of record based on the Venable references he can only state that he has simply no idea of what personal knowledge applicant is referring to. Finally, with respect to applicant's contention (Response, page 9, bottom paragraph) that "the Final Action, just like the Non-Final Action, fails to provide the applicant with any specific text that supports the Examiner's allegations" it must respectfully be noted that both the Nonfinal Action (Paragraph No. 8, lines 3-5) and the Final Rejection (Paragraph No.3, lines 9-11, lines 15-16) cite sections of each of the references as supporting evidence for his positions of record..